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FM AMEMBASSY VIENNA  
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INFO RUEHZG/NATO EU COLLECTIVE

C O N F I D E N T I A L VIENNA 000037

SIPDIS

DEPARTMENT FOR EUR/CACEN

E.O. 12958: DECL: 01/09/2019

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SUBJECT: AUSTRIAN VIEW ON WAY FORWARD ON THE SEPARATIST  
REGIONS OF GEORGIA

REF: STATE 134559

Classified by: Economic-Political Counselor J. Dean Yap for  
reasons 1.4 (b) and (d).

(C) Polchief discussed reftel points January 9 with  
Franz-Josef Kuglitsch, MFA Director for Southeast Europe.  
Kuglitsch agreed that it makes sense for the U.S. and Europe  
to coordinate on a long-term approach to the separatist  
regions of Georgia. However, he maintained that the EU  
remains focused on the Geneva Process under the leadership of  
Special Envoy Morel, and member states have not discussed a  
more long-term approach as outlined reftel. He said Austria  
and other EU members will be guided by Morel on how to  
proceed. Depending on the outcome of the Geneva Process, it  
may make sense to pursue some of the reftel measures, but it  
would be "premature" to implement sanctions while the Process  
is ongoing, he averred.  
GIRARD-DICARLO